

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: bkassel@enet.net (Brian Kassel)
Subject: [2272] 10 Meter Band Opening Trick
Message-ID: <199608082227.PAA23663@maple.enet.net>

Folks:

As we begin to very slowly crawl out of these sun spot doldrums and head up to better times, our fancy begins to turn to 10M. Trouble is, as us old timers know, the band is open quite a bit, but nobody gets on to "stir the pot", so evryone sits idely by, proclaiming that 10 is just not open!

Of course one can sit on 28.060 CW, or monitor 28.600 SSB, but who wants to listen to all of the noise?

A little trick that might not have occured to everyone is to use a 10M FM scanning radio to indicate when the band opens. Just program in the common frequencies, squelch up the radio, and forget about it. If the band is open, chances are that a repeater or simplex QSO will be heard. If you listen a little closer, you can find out where the machine is located, and aim your beam accordingly.

At the present sunspot lows, one can buy one of these rigs very cheap. I use an old AZDEN PCS-2800, but there were, and are several other 10M multimode radios available.

One can even press a "big" HF mutlimode radio into service.

For those uninitiated to 10 FM here are the particulars:

29.600 Primary FM Simplex Calling Frequency

29.500 Alternate FM Simplex Calling Frequency

There are only 4 repeater output frequencies:

29.620, 29.640, 29.660, 29.680.

All inputs are 100 Khz. lower than the outputs.

If you want to transmit as well as monitor, remember that most repeaters use a PL tone for access. I don't remember the actual frequency of the tone, but only one tone frequency is almost universally used by most of the repeaters.

There are lot's of remote bases that have a lot of local VHF/UHF traffic on them, and have their linked 10M side on continously, so that they become a sort of beacon.

Yesterday, Wednesday, 8-7, the band was open most of the day. I heard mostly Southern California, Idaho, WY, WA and OR. I also heard some oriental traffic.

I never was quite able to establish exactly where those folks were located.

Give it a try. Sure makes fun listening while putting in time at the workbench, and it may just get some activity going again on 10M.

Brian W5VB0
ScQRPions

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
Subject: [2240] 49'ER SCHEMATIC
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960807204408.00b90510@fix.net>

A 49'er schematic is now available directly off the NorCal Page:

<http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>

72,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Dave <kd3pc@nrv.net>
Subject: [2254] 4band TenTec Rcvr kit finished
Message-ID: <199608081644.MAA08987@kirk.nrv.net>

Gang

Just thought I'd let you know that my 6 year old and I finished the 4 band regen rig last nite. I did the descriptions (black,red,red) and the soldering, my son did all the parts placement. He did get C5 and C6 bakwards? I think we had about 3.5 hours total even with a little learning going on. He was fascinated with the audio check out...turn it on and then touch R10 the hum should go up... and was rather pleased with the finished product, other than "it sure sounds scratchy". We need to mount it in the box now and we will be done. Mom has laid down the law that it must be in a case, unlike my other QRP rigs..most never made it into a case, yet. It works extremely well even with just a small wire laying on the floor, and once you get the hang of the regen, it is simple to use.

Now on to "my" kit, the two meter rig. I imagine it will take a little longer than the 3.5 hours we spent on "his" kit. However, he definitely wants to help on mine.

Anyway I think I may have another QRP'er in the next few years, he really enjoys the magic of radio, so far.

Dave
KD3PC

Dave Dabay, KD3PC Race At The New ELK CREEK DRAGWAY
Technology Specialist, Radford City Schools 540-731-5011

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: wq8q@juno.com (Rick Tyler)
Subject: [2286] A word to the wise . . .
Message-ID: <19960808.201515.3079.2.wq8q@juno.com>

Well, this ain't exactly QRP (but it might have been) . . .
Summer storm moved through this afternoon, and of course I disconnected all my antennas (okay, both of them) and unplugged the computers. Lightning hit the maple tree in the front yard . . . threw dirt up from the base of the tree where it entered the ground, and threw bark up on the roof of the house.
Well, guys, I didn't crawl under the computer tables and unplug the modems . . . and the phone lines are underground lines, you guessed it right close to the maple tree.
Took out two modems in two computers including a U.S. Robotics 28800, an IDE controller and the telephone answering machine. All in all an expensive afternoon.
Since the answering machine was first priority, got a new one, and picked up some new telephone jacks, mounted them on the front of the computer desks so it's really easy to pop out the connectors when the next storm hits.
I had a 2400 baud modem in the junk box, and it barely works for Juno e-mail.
Also had a spare IDE board. Lucky that's all it took out. . .
So besides unplugging those antennas, unplug those phones and modems!

Okay, here's the QRP part . . . of course I dismantled the answering machine and retrieved several useful parts . . . what I'll do with them I don't know, but nice little microphone and speaker, and a 3.579545 Xtal, and a few other goodies.

73/72 de Rick, WQ8Q
Cincinnati

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gwl.com>
Subject: [2274] Alinco EMail address
Message-ID: <199608082220.AA02274@gp-ipc103.gwl.com>

Does any one have the EMail address for Alinco Electronics Inc.? Or does anyone know

the answer to my question which is - What are the Alpha keys (A,B,C & D) on the right side of the keypad for on the DJ-180T? Are they just for looks?

Also I'm looking at buying one (very slightly used for around \$100) has anyone had any experience with this or other Alinco units?

This will be my first and possibly only 2M unit I'll purchase - other than for Colorado QRP Monday night meetings and messing with antennas I probably won't use it as much as my 49er and definately not as much as my Explorer II.

Thanks

de KB0ROL, Brad
QTH Aurora, CO

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Michael Gipe" <MichaelGipe@msn.com>
Subject: [2255] Antennas and Kites
Message-ID: <UPMAIL06.199608081644080904@msn.com>

Regarding your inquiry about kite antennas, Stew:

Kite mounted antennas have been very successful here. My suggestions are:

Use a medium sized parafoil kite. These seem to be the most stable and have plenty of lift. A kite that moves around a lot and takes lots of attention to keep up is not good for antenna hoisting.

Though we are strongly tempted to use wire as the kite string, that hasn't been too successful. We use a separate kite string with a wire antenna connected to the string at least ten feet below the kite. Number 26 enamelled wire works pretty well.

The antenna is more a sloper than a vertical, although by anchoring the kite string upwind from the radio site, you can get a more vertical (i.e. omnidirectional) antenna. Tie the kite string off very securely to something

stronger than a tent stake, like a picnic table bolted to concrete in state park style. Take the slack out of the wire, but make sure that there is no tension in the wire. Loop the wire once around a secure anchor like the handle of the gel cel just in case the wind shifts or the string slips. You really don't want the emotional anguish of watching your new St. Louis tuner sail off into the sunset, dragging the Sierra along the ground as it disappears over the ridge. It can happen! Just don't ask me how I know.

You definitely need the tuner. Local conditions will dictate the length of the wire and proximity to ground, so the impedance will vary, even as the weather changes, which will happen just as the band opens, of course.

Static protection is very important. I lost the front end of an Icom IC730 to static off a kite antenna. You must have a DC return path to ground, which means either a 100k resistor across the antenna terminals or a balun transformer which has a winding connected to ground. A spark gap will protect your kite after the radio has blown up.

Speaking of ground, you do need one. Although temporary ground rods are hard to handle, a counter poise made of a roll of zip cord snaked around the operating site works well, even for static drain. If you can dip the end into the Gulf, so much the better.

Most importantly, be prepared to improvise. One of our most successful antennas was used on Field Day years ago on the cliffs north of San Francisco.

We were able to put up a long dipole with two kites using the excellent ridge lift. It was fed with open wire ladder line which dropped down right to the picnic table where the rig sat. Just before dinnertime, the famous San Francisco fog started to blow in. For those who haven't seen it, the air is perfectly clear at ground level, but fifty feet up the visibility is one inch.

With the fog, the winds picked up even more and that antenna was truly anchored in the sky. When the burgers were ready, we left the rig beeping away on 40 CW and went over to eat dinner about 100 feet away from the rig. While we were eating, a hiker walked up to the radio and spent fifteen minutes staring, deeply mystified by the tiny little ladder which, seemingly unsupported, led the way directly up to heaven and disappeared. We didn't have the heart to ruin her religious experience by explaining it.

Have fun!

Mike K1MG

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Phil Sikes" <psikes@whidbey.net>
Subject: [2239] Any Band T-Kit

Message-ID: <199608080711.AAA17885@islander.whidbey.net>

Hello gang, I just completed a T-Kit 1056 Any Band Receiver and thought that I would pass along my thoughts on it in case any of you are thinking about building one. First, this is the second T-Kit that I have built, and I am very impressed with the quality that Ten Tec is supplying. The construction directions are very clear and easy to follow. I didn't time how long it took to build this one, but I would guess at about 1 1/2 hrs including performing the intermediate progress checks. I haven't bench checked the rig yet, but after returning from vacation I will try to do just that. I will say that it is one very hot receiver! Alignment consists of adjusting two slug tuned coils. Superb audio quality, and an abundance of it.

The receiver is a direct conversion based on the NE612 and can be built for any band, 160 - 10 meters. The parts are included for all bands, so you just select the ones needed for your band of choice. There is the capability of injecting a sidetone and receiver muting using a T-R switching circuit.

This would be a great club project to teach soldering and kit building skills. I have no financial interest in Ten Tec, just a happy builder. Sorry if this is too long, just thought there might be some interested parties out there.

72 - Phil
Amateur Radio Station
KJ7NS
ARCI 9196:NWQRP 412:QRP-L 528
email: psikes@whidbey.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@mail.telis.org>
Subject: [2256] August NorCal Meeting Report
Message-ID: <320A1587.7C53@telis.org>

The August meeting of the NorCal QRP Club was held on Sunday, Aug. 4th at the "California Burger". Lots of action this month, as we had the introduction of the KC2, which is the next step in products from Wilderness Radio. It is a LCD Digital Display, Memory Keyer, Power Meter, and S Meter, all in one package about the size of a KC1, and designed by Wayne Burdick, N6KR. The club made a special purchase of 100 Kits from Wilderness, and we sold them at the special club price of \$50.

We had our usual run of special guests. Jeff Grudin, Harvey Hetlund,

John Andrews, Phil Wheeler, and Dick Szakoni were all there for the first time.

Show and tell items included:

Wayne Burdick, N6KR, brought a Sierra with a KC2 installed!

Bob Tellefsen, N6WG, had his hombebrew Q meter in a spice can.

Ron Lampe, WD6CIM had a unique 49er. It was mounted in a candy can from Trader Joe's. The panel is lexan with all controls mounted on it. This allows you to see everything inside, including the self contained battery. Great job, Ron!!

Dave Fifield had a 2 Meter SSB/CW rig using an R2 receiver with a home brew pcboard, Kanga T2 transmitter, and LM2 VFO and a homebrew PA strip with 3mW in and 5 watts out. Super packaging job.

I brought a set of magnetic paddles that is the prototype for a construction article that will appear in the December issue. It is done by Floyd Smithberg, NQ7X, who gave it to me to try out at the Ft. Tuthill hamfest in Flagstaff. Jim Cates was so impressed that he tried to get it for his collection, but I did not relent to his pressure, and it is still in my possession. Grin.

Dick Szakony had his S&S Synthesized VFO with a digital display. He brought it all the way from Maryland for the show and tell. It was great to see Dick again, as he is the well known designer of the S & S Engineering kits, the ARK 40, ARK 20, ARK 4 and TAC 20, plus others.

Dave Lawson had a wire tuner, BFO, Transmitter and Transceiver..

Dave Meacham, W6EMD and the Sonoma gang compared notes on their Epiphytes. Their are 4 of them being built in the Sonoma area, also, Ron Moeller is building one, so it looks like the Epiphyte 2 is becoming a popular rig.

And we had the ever present give aways. Darrel Jones, WD6BOR had wire and chassis i.f.s that had some neat caps inside. I gave away some really small 2" square speakers that were 8 ohms, .4 watt, and only 1/4" thick!! They came out of modems. They work great for keyers.

Lee Stanford has ordered a supply of toroids and will have them at future meetings to sell at a really reasonable price.

But, the highlight of the meeting was Jim Cates, WA6GER proudly showing me his new addition to his collection. Jim got a 80/40 Kantronics Direct Conversion Receiver from John Andrews. It is a beauty! And, right after the meeting, Jim got on the internet and found a matching Rockhound transmitter!

Lots of fun, lots of fellowship. Hope to see you at a meeting sometime!
72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Gary M. Diana, Sr." <gmdsr@vivanet.com>
Subject: [2234] Back To Basics: The Sudden Receiver
Message-ID: <32096C12.1811@vivanet.com>

I built something really simple and basic tonite, & thought I would share it with the list, especially those who are new to Homebrewing and QRP.

I bought a Sudden 40m Receiver kit back at the '95 Dayton Hamvention, but never got around to building it. I found it in the "kit" box, and decided to build it for listening/code practice. The Sudden Receiver was designed by Rev. George Dobbs (G3RJV) several years ago, and KANGA Kits, both in the UK and US, now sell the kit. I recommend this kit for beginners; it goes together in an evening, and has about 25 board-mounted parts on a not-too-densely populated board. It is powered from a single 9v battery and can be used with a small speaker or headphones.

If you are a beginner, and want to begin reading schematics and following signal flow, the Sudden is a nice learning tool. There is a digestable amount of parts, making the circuit understandable. The Sudden is a direct conversion receiver, and that's another thing you'll learn about by building it.

If you get ambitious, a simple transmitter can be built and used with the Sudden later on. It won't measure up to a more expensive rig, but you'll make contacts with it, and experience a satisfaction no commercially-built rig will likely ever give you.

You can check out the Sudden at either of the KANGA websites:

<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/kanga/> OR <http://www.ukinternet.com/ham/kanga/>

An alternative to the Sudden is the Neophyte Receiver. It is basically the same design, using an NE602 mixer/oscillator and a LM386 audio amp. This kit can be obtained from Dan's Small Parts and Kits:

<http://www.fix.net/~jparker/dans.html>

If you prefer to scrounge parts yourself, maybe even make a PC board, then take a look at the Doug DeMaw QRP Notebook and Design Handbook. You'll find lots of designs for simple receivers and transmitters, and learn a lot from reading them. The ARRL (<http://www.arrl.org>), among others, sells these for \$10-12, and they're well worth it.

If you have any questions about building the Sudden, feel free to contact me: gmdsr@vivanet.com

73 for now...

- Gary N2JGU

Disclaimer: I don't have any financial ties with any of the above companies, other than being a satisfied customer. The intent was to re-visit some of the simpler kits and resources for the beginning QRPers.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: KFGlynn@aol.com
Subject: [2246] Bob AE4IC and Dennis de KB2TE0/QRP
Message-ID: <960808103057_451675711@emout07.mail.aol.com>

Dennis sorry but QSB got us yesterday on 30M. I worked you before from my front stoop using my MFJ-9040 (by way of Joe N2CX).

Bob - unfortunately we couldn't make it yesterday on 30M. I heard you work EA1FQ, Santiago. I called that station but they had to QRT.

I was working portable from a park near the Verazzano Bridge in Brooklyn with an inverted-v up about 25 or more feet.

May be there again tonite. Will keep an ear out for you.

73 Kevin KB2TE0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Brian.Buydens@usask.ca" <buydens@duke.usask.ca>
Subject: [2257] Bragging (and ionosphere question)
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.95.960808103125.41B-100000@duke.usask.ca>

I passed my Advanced Qualification last night (now I am a fully qualified Canadian ham).

(There. The bragging is over.)

While studying for my exam I read that that the thickness of various layers (D, E, F) is dependent on UV levels. Does this mean that as we go back up in the cycle we will have to worry even more about sunburns or will the fact that the layers get thicker even everything out?

Brian.

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+-----+
| Brian Buydens, Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan |
| email: Brian.Buydens@usask.ca |
| VE5RDV |
+-----+
| "If I had only known, I would have been a locksmith." |
| -- Albert Einstein |
+-----+
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: DYARNES@aol.com
Subject: [2248] Confessions of a Ten-Tec Junkie
Message-ID: <960808100248_174071974@emout10.mail.aol.com>

<< On Mon, 5 Aug 1996 RHILT0@acxiom.com wrote:

> What keeps Ten-Tec afloat? >>

You really want the truth?? I KEEP TEN-TEC AFLOAT! I am a Ten-Tec junkie and it's time that I came out of the closet! There! I've said it! What a relief!

In more or less chronological order over the years since about 1972 I purchased:

PM3A
505 Argonaut
405 Linear
Power Supply for 405/505
Omni A (Series B)
Power Supply for Omni
Corsair
Power Supply for Corsair
229 ATU
Omni VI
Auto ATU
509 Argonaut (hamfest purchase)
405 Linear (see how sick I am--now I have two!)
Argo 556

All but the Omni A and the Corsair are still here. Have I got a problem or what? Is there a self-help group out there for Ten-Tec junkies? Is there

anybody else out there like this or am I all alone?

S O S de David W7AQK

P. S. I'm sick! I just ordered a 20 to 6 meter transverter kit. Help me!

D.

P.P.S. As part of my recovery I have to learn to tell the WHOLE truth! I also ordered a 9 band receiver kit! Is there any hope?

D.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@bright.net>
Subject: [2278] Dryden, NY Hamfest this weekend
Message-ID: <199608082332.TAA19500@brutus.bright.net>

Is anyone on the list going to the Hamfest in Dryden NY this Saturday?? It is at the local High School.

I have to head that way this weekend anyway, and if any QRP types were going to attend, I would be there soon enough to make the hamfest with a few Kanga/Hands/KK7B kits.....

If you are going to be there - drop me an e-mail before Friday AM.

hope to hear from some of you!

73 - Bill - N8ET Dryden HS Class of '66

73 - Bill Kelsey - N8ET
Kanga US
kanga@bright.net
419-423-4604
<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/kanga/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: KFGlynn@aol.com
Subject: [2266] Friend Wants Rockwell Collins 380 or KWM-2A
Message-ID: <960808145919_594908772@emout16.mail.aol.com>

Hello everyone,

Although not QRP, hoped a member of this list could help. Had trouble subscribing/sending to Boatanchors list.

A friend is in the market for a Rockwell Collins 380 or KWM-2A. If you have one for sale or know a source for the rigs please let me know.

Thanks for the info.

73 Kevin KB2TE0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: n6mve@juno.com (mike wood)
Subject: [2269] FS Norcal KC2
Message-ID: <19960808.132953.7247.1.N6MVE@juno.com>

Hello, I have decided to sell my KC2 keyer kit as it isn't a automatic fit for the Cascade rig it was intended for.

This Kit was picked up at the August NorCal QRP meeting last Sunday and can be had for \$60, which includes shipping. If interested, drop me a line here.

73, mike

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: mvjfm@mvubr.att.com
Subject: [2241] Hallicrafters S-38C
Message-ID: <199608081215.IAA14106@alig1.att.att.com>

Putting together an ancient vacuum tube QRP station and Im looking for a (50's vintage) Hallicrafters S-38C receiver.

I have an earlier an S-38 model and will try restoring that if an S-38C model cannot be acquired.

However, I need tubes, manual/schematic, if anyone can help.

72 & Thanks

Jim W1FMR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
Subject: [2288] Homebrew Xtal ovens?
Message-ID: <320a9c1e.pandora@pandora.lugs.org.sg>

Hi Gang,

I've been having some free time with nothing to do except aligning and re-aligning my rig when I got the idea of building a homebrew oven for VFO's and x'tal oscillators. I remember many years ago at the beginning of my hobby I saw a project which controlled temperature using a transistor as the heating element. I was wondering if it might be possible to make a very small oven using a TO-220 transistor, for example, to maintain the temperature of the VFO or the xtal in an oscillator. What do you guys think of this idea? It could be used to stabilize a number of critical components, eg. the crystal in a frequency counter

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel

--

Daniel Wee | daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg
9V1ZV | daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Cosmo224@aol.com
Subject: [2287] HP - The Nerd's Badge of Honor
Message-ID: <960808214654_452207329@emout15.mail.aol.com>

Howdy All

ok, my .02
You could always pick out the Nerds in the Engineering and Technical departments at my college by the presence of the brown HP 41 case strapped to the belt. Be it summer or winter, you flashed the 41 as a silent (!?) symbol of true nerdiness to the rest of your fellow hacks (especially the poor souls still cranking away with their AOS boxes). Please pardon the slight political incorrectness, but carrying a high powered box like a 41 did not help as a 'babe attractor..' Of course, in

my case, also carrying an ICOM 02 and 04 AT in my book backpack didnt help although I once did an auto patch while riding my skateboard around the commons...

Ah, college...

Anyway, back to QRP related stuff and off the soapbox.

73 de AA9IL
Mike Kana

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Subject: [2247] hw7 mods/update
Message-ID: <960808111843_255022741@emout13.mail.aol.com>

The rcvr board is now working well since I have tamed some nagging oscillations and AM detection tendencies. I have modified (very slightly) the hw7 preselector circuit to present a balanced input to the NE602 as part of those cures. Incidentally, mounting the preselector cap on rubber grommets made a big difference on the microphonics.

I worked on a diode based T/R switch last nite. I am pleased with the outcome. Full break-in is my goal! (I robbed the design idea from the ohr400 circuitry :) I built it up on a piece of perf board and used extended leads from the parts to meet the holes on the hw7 pcb.

BTW, does anyone know of any transmitter mods that can be done to increase the output power? I get about 1 watt out on 40 and 20 mtrs and about 500mW out on 15mtrs. Is this normal? So what resistors do I cut out to increase the power out? (old C.B. joke) Maybe re-wire the finals to an extra battery to make it 24 vdc?

Is this fun or what?!

73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "David Kreinberg" <kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com>
Subject: [2261] IS THERE LIFE ON 80M ?
Message-ID: <9607088395.AA839531707@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Gang:

The heck with life on Mars, I want to know if there's life on 80 meters??

The family will be taking a vacation in a few weeks, and I will be staying behind to work (joy).

I wanted to take advantage of my free evening and weekend hours to construct an antenna to let me play on 80 meters. 80 is currently the only band which I've never been on.

Well the other evening, I listened in on 80. Not much going on in the CW portion (lots of QRN), so I go up to listen in on phone. I think it's been mentioned here before that 75/80 phone is filled with poison and horrible ops. I may be a bit naive, but I couldn't believe the swearing and truly bad operators there. How do they get away with this?

Anyway, before I spend some bucks and invest blood (I have a wasp nest somewhere in my yard), sweat (it's still mighty hot here in Texas), and tears (wasps again), I wanted to get an opinion of what folks think of 75/80.

Is this band worth my time? Are there still good ops to be found here. I wish we had a neat net like the Knightlites. They sound like a first class group.

Thanks for your thoughts!

73 de Dave AC5GY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: wb8ygg@juno.com (Bradley S. Mitchell)
Subject: [2276] Making it simple to go portable!

Message-ID: <19960807.192751.7911.2.WB8YGG@juno.com>

Hi Everyone.

Going QRP portable can be a lot of fun, and it can be a pain too!

Every time that I go portable, It seems that I say, this will be easy. I'll just take my Dipole, my radio, my keyer, my paddles, my battery, my antenna tuner.. etc. By the time I'm done, it's more than one trip!

With the talk of the Adventure Radio Society, and all, It seems that going portable has to be easier. For instance, I see it like this:

The items that you might take on a portable trip are as follows:

1. Transceiver
2. Antenna
3. Antenna Tuner
4. Battery
5. Keyer
6. Paddles
7. Amplified Speaker/or headphones.

Elimination of any of the above would be great for portable operation! I suppose the easiest thing to do is to get rid of the tuner! Why take a tuner, take a resonant dipole for the band in question!

Then you have:

1. Transceiver
2. Antenna
3. Battery
4. Keyer
5. Paddles
6. Amplified Speaker/or headphones.

Next a really easy thing to do is to embed the keyer in the rig. eg: (I put my ak-1in my sw-40).

Now my list is reduced to:

1. Transceiver
2. Antenna

3. Battery
4. Paddles
5. Amplified Speaker/or headphones.

Next , get rid of the headphone, and put a speaker & amp in the rig. ok purists will want to retain tranquility for the surrounding, but it reduces the pile!

Then we have

1. Transceiver
2. Antenna
3. Battery
4. Paddles

If you leave enough room in the rig, batteries could be put inside. Then you carry just..

1. Transceiver
2. Antenna
3. Paddles

You could put the paddles inside the rig, but then you may end up with something like my Heathkit HD 1410 that I finally retired. Maybe something like a WhiteRook paddle would do.

Next is reduction of the antenna.

The antenna can be a 450 ohm ladder line special, or you could do like Doug Demaw did/does? ..

Take some RG-174U for feed line, Large plastic buttons for insulators, magnet wire for the dipole legs, and away you go. Make sure you wind all that stuff up nice and neat on something like spools. Put a rubber band around after winding to keep things in place.

That's about it! I really would like to stuff all that in my sw-40, (minus the antenna of course) , but I'll do it one step at a time.

What ideas are out there? for instance, Are there any new ideas for batteries, maybe flat ones that would fit in any rig? etc.

One of my thoughts is that the upper bands are coming back! I'm seriously thinking of building something like a Green Mountain -15 just for that period. Then we've reduced the antenna again!

73 Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Gary Surrency <gsurrenc@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [2238] Martian Rock Life?
Message-ID: <32097817.7C2E@ix.netcom.com>

If I hear any more about this so-called Martian microbe that might have been, I'm gonna be SICK! Anyone in science knows to treat such "findings" with a great deal of skepticism until collaboration or additional evidence is produced. What is really going on here?!

After hearing today on the radio, about a U2 plane crashing in a Sacramento parking lot, I tried to get more info by watching the Clinton News Network (CNN). Each hour and half hour, all they began with on the news was the rock revelation like it was some kind of a earth-shattering event! The plane crash story was much later in the broadcast and treated very low key. And the scientists have had this rock for 14 years! Why did it take until now to reveal this "discovery"?

Sounds like NASA is coming up for a budget renewal and so are many other university research grants, etc. Even Clinton used this "news" for a political statement. Good Grief!

Sheesh! Let's get back to technical discussions and QRP and leave this crap where it belongs, on the TV.

Just my \$0.02 worth.

73,

--

Gary, AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix) Grid Square DM43BH

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Philip Karras <ke3fl@access.digex.net>
Subject: [2250] MFJ-90XX blown "fuse"
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.94.960808113502.24223A-1000000@access4.digex.net>

to: Mark_Korchinski@isdtcp3.hwc.ca

Yes, I've fixed mine. Mr Bonehead sure gets around, he hit me two years ago on my 9040.

I built a small PC board with a mini fuse holder & screwed it into the place where the keyer board goes. You don't have to do it this way, there is plenty of room for another daughter board.

Also, replace the 1-amp diode since it is probably blown as well. I used a 5-amp version & actually tested it to be sure the fuse blew before the diode so I wouldn't have to replace diodes everytime Mr Bonehead showed up :-)

72 & 73 de KE3FL/Phil
:-)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Bob White <bobwhitewo3b@geocities.com>
Subject: [2292] Milliwatt TMPS Reports Wanted
Message-ID: <320AB9E3.296F@geocities.com>

I am again calling for TMPS reports and results from Milliwatters. Please provide your TMPS report and a description of your station, including antenna system and location.

Thanks again,

Bob White W03B WASTP 38.28W

bobwhitewo3b@geocities.com
<http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/5582>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Brian.Buydens@usask.ca" <buydens@duke.usask.ca>
Subject: [2258] My Web Page (for VE5RDV)
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.95.960808105550.41C-100000@duke.usask.ca>

If you have a link to my ham web page please be advised that it has moved to

<http://duke.usask.ca/~buydens/ham>

Brian.

```
+-----+
| Brian Buydens, Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan |
| email: Brian.Buydens@usask.ca |
| VE5RDV |
+-----+
| "If I had only known, I would have been a locksmith." |
| -- Albert Einstein |
+-----+
```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [2243] NC40A on other bands?
Message-ID: <960808085648_174031887@emout18.mail.aol.com>

Anyone ever tried putting the Norcal 40-A on other bands? How do you like your 40-meter model?

I'm thinking about a -small- portable, a kit like these or maybe the larger MFJs.

Email direct if you like.

73, Jay WB6AAM
jcoote@aol.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Philip Karras <ke3fl@access.digex.net>
Subject: [2251] Newbee info, rigs/bands etc.
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.94.960808113708.24223B-100000@access4.digex.net>

Brian, N5ZGT:

>Since I want to try it to see if I like it, I do not want to go out
>and buy a \$500+ transceiver. I would like to keep the cost under \$100,
>not including the antenna.
>What should I be looking for as a receiver/transceiver?
>

I bought an NE-4040 for \$40 at the time. It is presently being sold for \$50 now by: (Dave was/is the designer)

SMALL WONDER LABS ***** : Dave Benson, NN1G QRP Transceiver Kits.
80 East Robbins Avenue : New Offerings get good Reviews.
Newington, CT 06111 : GM-xx (20m or 30m) (Other bands may be
P: (203)667-3536 : available.
E: Bensondj@aol.com :

>I would like to start listening to CW, the ARRL practice sessions as
>well as actual QSO's in order to improve this skill. Should I just
>get a very cheap receiver, or be looking ahead and buy a transeiver?
>

The NE-4040 is a small 1.5 Watt output transceiver. It works well for \$40 - \$50 & can be adjusted to tune in the ARRL cw practice & then later you can change it to the Novice band if you only pass 5 WPM, and then later it can be changed to the General/Extra area when you get that good. I put a switch on mine to allow me access to 7.015 to 7.055 & then 7.100 to 7.140 so I can do Extra/General and Novice. Works well! This is NOT a big rig.

The other alternative is to wait here for something like an MFJ-9040 and see if you can get it for around \$100, I've seen them go for about that both here & at ham fests.

>What bands should I concentrate on? 40m seems to be a fairly common
>one. Should I get a receiver/transeiver for multibands?
>

For Tech+ you're stuck with 80/40 & 10. The best for cw-novice is 80 meters since it is available all year round in the evenings. Most folks stay off 80 during the day due to short distance contacts only. 40 meters is good any time BUT the novice section gets bad QRM from the foriegn broadcasters. The advantage is that 40 is good almost any time day or night. Conditions change but you can almost always find someone to cw with.

I'd stay away from 10 until it gets better. Also, it allows you to use SSB & I stayed away from SSB & FM phone until I just about had my Extra nailed down. It helped me go from Novice to Extra in 6 months. The other thing that will help (mostly on 80 meters) is a slow net. Here in Maryland we have the MSN Maryland Slow Net. It teaches cw net protocol & traffic handling. It was great practice, much better than just listening to ARRL since you also have to send a little.

72 & 73 de KE3FL/Phil
:-)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: john andrews <jm165723@eee.org>
Subject: [2264] NorCal: Impressions...(LONG)
Message-ID: <320A31B8.6B87@eee.org>

Hi Gang:

Made the 800 mile(round) trip to visit the folks at NorCal. Worth it?

You bettcha!

I think I had more fun then anytime in the last 5 years.

It started with the thought in July that I still needed to unload more stuff at a swap-meet and get out of the house for a few days. I knew the QRP+ was on the way and I had promised myself that for every pound of stuff that came in 20 would go out the door. The QRP+,pound-for-pound is a *very* heavy rig!

Up the I-5 to Livermore. I'll skip the gory details but 2 of those in a real hurry, who passed me at 70 mph, did'nt make it.(On the way back, Sunday, it took me an extra hour to get home. Landing helicopters on a freeway takes time). A word to the wise...don't rush. Your life means too much.

Strange world we live in. Paid cash for my room. Required an extra \$40.00 deposit. Did'nt check my room when I left, just returned my deposit. Wonder what makes plastic money so magical?

Up at 4am to get ready for the swap-meet at the College. Cool that morning with a slight breeze.(In southern Ca. we have a saying-"Don't trust any air you can't chew"). Lots of friendly faces and laid back atmosphere. Sold enough to pay for the trip and met some nice folks.

The highlight was the fella who made an offer on a little Kantronics 8040 receiver. Jaw firmly set, I told him the price. A gentle smile and a soft counter offer was made. A deal was struck just on good will. He introduced himself..."Hi, I'm Jim Cates- Are you a NorCal member and would you like to join us later"?

I didn't stand a chance.

A few hours later I was at the World Famous California Burger with the NorCal Gang. So much talent in such a small burger joint. The new KC-2 was there and I had been forewarned that it would only be sold to those locals as to be evaluated by NorCal/Wilderness. Burger in one hand, lemonade in the other, I ambled up to Doug and said "Hmmm... looks good...I'd like one". Ok, says he, pay Jim Cates. By this time, Jim and I were treating each other like long-lost cousins. By the time I got thru a new KC-2, 40er(for a friend in SoCal), and a part of a SLT(just a few parts), went into the lock-box on my truck.

A special thanks goes to those folks who helped me unload the 100 pounds of magazines. Really...thanks.

Show and Tell was fantastic. R2/T2 rigs. Derry's little SSB rigs. Sierras. 49ers. Wilderness was in full force with all their goodies.

Still didn't sell a few items. Everyone felt my price was fair, and my stuff was good, just a little too high. So... Revised:

1. HW-8 /with manual. Few mods.
2. Century 21 /with manual. Torn down to install digital dial. Easily returned to stock.
3. Monster Junk-Box...Millen turns counter(ala Ultimate Transmatch-cost new \$75), Johnson 229-607 2-40uH rolling inductor, Heath 26-97 split-stator cap 437pf per section, Heath 29-96 150pf variable, verniers, pc project boards(plated), coils, stuff to numerous to mention. HEAVY.

Your choice \$100.00ea. All of the above AS IS. First offers.
Payment via money order only. You pay shipping.

Join a club. Meet the folks with similar tastes. Enjoy life.

72, John- N5INZ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Philip Karras <ke3fl@access.digex.net>
Subject: [2246] PIN diodes
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.94.960808095640.21440A-100000@access4.digex.net>

Just a quuick question, what is PIN? I was fixing a radio & an (some of

you may need to avert your eyes here) power amp & the sheet with the finals said that I should check the PIN diodes & replace them if needed. Just what is a PIN diode? (positive ? Negative)??

Also, how do I check them with a meter (it does have a diode check selection) what do I look for?

Thanks for any help.
72 & 73 de KE3FL/Phil
:-)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Richard Wilkerson <richqrp@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [2277] plastic boxes
Message-ID: <320A14F2.7097@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

I wish I would have been paying attention when the listing of the topic "plastic cases" was going on..I have just ran across a very nice plastic see-thur box, How did the group come up the sheilding (if any) problem? The case I came across was about 3" square and I think it would be very nice to put my next rig in there. thanks to all. 72/73's rich wd6fdd

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [2245] QRP+ Service
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.960808093142.13680A-100000@u1.abs.net>

Hi Peter,
Just a quick note to advise that Index Labs is alive and well.
I recently sent my QRP + for repair service (7/20/96) and received it this week (8/6/96). That is just under three weeks. The charges were reasonable. \$ 35 for the repair and \$ 10 for UPS 3 day shipping.
I was surprised to learn that the Final had blown. They replaced the final and two caps. The rig functioned quite well QRP Mobile on Field Day this year. The following Saturday, I attempted to use it at home for the QRP Nets. When I turned it on, it came on briefly then died. After that it blew fuses everytime I tried it. I started to take it apart for a look see. The only thing that I could see was the fact that the "Foot" on the bottom was loose. It also has a ground lug attached internally. I thought it might have touched the on/off switch or the circuit board causing the fuses to blow. Still don't really know what caused the failure for sure. The reason that I mention it is because

others on the list might have occasion to take their rigs out into the field and/or mobile and subject them to unusual stress and vibrations. I say this as a reminder to check for "Loose Thingies" when you get it back home. Before Firing (No Smoke) it up again!
If I were your friend, I would try giving Bruce a call and check on the rig. The postal service has been known to loose things before. :^)
Try (206)851-5725. gl es

QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS@abs.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Phil, AC6LS" <ac6ls@amsat.org>
Subject: [2260] rpn calculators
Message-ID: <320A1E80.540B@amsat.org>

Hello to my fav. TN's (techno-nerds, as a friend at work calls us-hi)

am on the search for a new rpn calculator. am presently using an hp 11-C, which I like very much. would like to know what you are using and would suggest for me as a second.

I know that this is not really ham related, but who else would have rpn calculators?

tnx es 73 de Phil

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: talljazz@teleport.com (Dan Presley)
Subject: [2235] SLT Puzzle pt.3
Message-ID: <v01530501ae2f20b25d37@[206.163.122.183]>

Sorry to keep making additions, but I've been fiddling with the tuner to see if I could find anything else wrong. The switch between bal-unbal made me curious-why would that make a difference? I tried 'jumping' the connection from the wire headed to the common side of the switch to the unbal. side just for the heck of it, and viola!- the signal was restored, and the tuner loaded up fine. OK, I thought, the switch is bad so I replaced it. NO CHANGE! It was just like before, and 'jumping past the switch makes everything work. How can a switch cause that much attenuation???

Dan N7CQR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)
Subject: [2270] Soldering to Aluminum
Message-ID: <v02130504ae300daaae43@[192.91.202.41]>

There was some discussion on this a while ago, and co-incidentally some useful information was posted to the glowbugs list by Dr. Barry Ornitz. He said I could repost it here...

It is POSSIBLE but not at all practical. Aluminum will solder using ordinary tin/lead solders if the proper flux is used. Because aluminum is always covered by a protective layer of its oxide, the flux must be quite aggressive. Adding copper to the joint is asking for trouble. Not only do you have a rather bad electrochemical couple for corrosion, the intermetallic compounds of aluminum/lead/tin/copper are unstable. I have never seen an aluminum to copper soldered joint last more than a few months if it was kept extremely dry. With moisture present, expect the joint to fail within hours to days.

---snip---

To go back to aluminum soldering, I would like to add that the "miracle rod" sold at hamfests for aluminum soldering is basically a big rip-off. Instead of "20 or more exotic metals in the alloy", the rod is basically zinc with about 20% aluminum and a trace of copper as a contaminant. Zinc, when molten, has an extremely low viscosity; it flows over aluminum well and fills in surface pores and pits in the oxide layer. It makes what appears to be a soldered connection, but the true alloying needed in soldering/brazing is not present. Can you repair things with this rod? Of course, but do not expect particularly high strength or exceptionally long life if the joint is exposed to moisture. Zinc is pretty cheap too!

----and later, he writes ----

Rhett George wrote:

> Please be reminded that there is an anti-oxidant jelly available in
> the electrical supplies area of most hardware stores for improving
> the connection between Al cable and Cu lugs. I'll check it out for
> use in Al boatanchor chassis and let you know.

Please do not do this. The paste (NOALOX and others) is basically a suspension of fine zinc particles in an organic binder. It is for aluminum to aluminum connections ONLY where the sharp (and hard) zinc

The correct thing to do, as Bobbi Barmore said, is use toothed lockwashers with adequate torque to insure the teeth cut through the aluminum oxide layer and that the fit is essentially air tight. In the long run, this joint will still corrode but not nearly as quickly. In spite of the old practice of running a ground bus through all lugs, I would not recommend this. Any lug not grounded properly is asking for an instability with ground loops.

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| /      Company       \            |
| Research Laboratories |            |
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Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867 x40
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260

At this point there is no plan to run CW, but if any QRP-L folks would like a sched on SSB, let me know.

Maybe I'll tuck a set of paddles in my bag and try to sneak up onto 30m at the end. :-)

b

HUDSON RIVER, NEW YORK: The Aircraft Carrier U.S.S. Intrepid Association of Former Crewmembers will sponsor Amateur Special Event station WA3KEY to commemorate their annual reunion. WA3KEY/2 will operate from the flight deck of the U.S.S. Intrepid (CVS-11) and from the conning tower of the Nuclear Guided Missile Submarine U.S.S. Growler (SSG-577) from 16:00 UTC Saturday, August 10 until 01:00 UTC Sunday, August 11th. Suggested operating freq's: 7,240 14,275 21,375 28,575 KHz. For a QSL certificate, send a business size S.A.S.E. with contact number to: WA3KEY, P.O. Box 498, Quakertown, PA 18951.

. - I own my own words -
Bill Acito
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS qrp-ne qrp-l arci norcal amsat-na arrl-life

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Ten-Tec, Inc." <74130.212@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [2263] Ten-Tec
Message-ID: <960808182312_74130.212_HHE52-1@CompuServe.COM>

Ten-Tec can now be reached directly at
74130.212@CompuServe.com

our web page address is
<http://www.mvangel.com/ten-tec>

73, Scott Robbins KY2P, Ten-Tec Inc.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "George T. Pasek Jr." <pasek001@maroon.tc.umn.edu>

Subject: [2259] Wire Slinging via Bow/Arrow
Message-ID: <56028.pasek001@maroon.tc.umn.edu>

I have been reading the posts about slinging wires up thru trees. Being a new subscriber (and QRP'r) to this list maybe the bow & arrow route is old hat, but I thought I'd pass it along if not.

For many years when out camping I'd use a old toy (I say toy because I got it for as birthday present back when I was about 10) bow that had about a 5 pound draw, I fashioned it after a fishing bow I saw. I bought a spool of fishing line that wasn't too heavy and screwed it to the center of the bow just below the arrow rest, tied a fishing swivel connect to the end of the line and another on to the nock of the arrow. Hooked the arrow to the line, drew back and let it rip. The first time I had the line on the wrong side of my arm..... arrow flew great for about 6", it wasn't a pretty sight!! Once I got that squared away, I could put that arrow over any branch at about any height I wanted to. Once the arrow would loop over the branch it's weight would bring it back down and I'd unclip it and clip on the antenna wire to pull back.

Put up a lot of wires with that bow.

GL
de George
WD0AKZ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: randy foltz <rfoltz@wsunix.wsu.edu>
Subject: [2291] Worked K5F0
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960808205125.20403A-100000@unicorn.it.wsu.edu>

Howdy, Gang.

I just worked Chuck, K5F0, at 0326 Friday August 9 on 7.043 MHz. He was 559 with his usual 1 watt to my 569 from my usual 2 watts. He said to tell the group he was doing fine and look for him on that fq. The trip was enjoyable and he visited Virginia City on Thursday. He asked me pass the word to the group. It is 550 miles from Tahoe to me in Moscow, ID.

I've been lucky this week. I also worked Russ, AA7QU, of this group and ARS while he was on vacation in WA. That too was on 40M.

72,
Randy
WB5QMP ARCI QRP-L NORCAL NWQRP ARS

Moscow, ID

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [2282] WWW Homepage Announcement
Message-ID: <960808234904_75230.1405_HHB53-1@CompuServe.COM>

Hi guys--

Just thought I'd let you know that I seem to have managed to set up a web page via CompuServe. It's pretty rough right now but as long as I keep the graphics to a minimum I have plenty of room for expansion. Information there now is some detailed info about CODEMASTER V and M*LOG, also an Oak Hills Price List. Sorry the address is so clumsy but that's the way they do it at CIS. Note there is no "www" in it-- don't yet what happens if you add it after the //.

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/mtech>

73
Marshall

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Dana Myers <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>
Subject: [2273] Re: 10 Meter Band Opening Trick
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.839532874.24790.myers@bigboy>

> Folks:
> As we begin to very slowly crawl out of these sun spot doldrums
> and head up to better times, our fancy begins to turn to 10M.
> Trouble is, as us old timers know, the band is open quite a bit,
> but nobody gets on to "stir the pot", so evryone sits idely by,
> proclaiming that 10 is just not open!
>
> Of course one can sit on 28.060 CW, or monitor 28.600 SSB, but
> who wants to listen to all of the noise?

Good point - why not run pactor beacons at 28.060 and have the computer sound an alarm when activity is detected? With some clever programming, the computer could also automatically generate an anti-digital/pro-CW flame to the necessary mailing lists and newsgroups, and then initiate

the QRP CW jamming algorithm...

Dana KK6JQ
Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [2279] Re: Any Band T-Kit
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960808224059.009971dc@public.compuserve.nf.ca>

Hi Phil,

Do you know how the T-Kit circuit compares to the direct conversion designs of the Kanga Sudden or the Neophyte?

As you mention this sounds like a neat starter kit.

Thanks for review 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 00:05 8/8/96 -8, you wrote:

>

>The receiver is a direct conversion based on the NE612 and can be
>built for any band, 160 - 10 meters. The parts are included for all
>bands, so you just select the ones needed for your band of choice.
>There is the capability of injecting a sidetone and receiver muting
>using a T-R switching circuit.

>72 - Phil

```
-----  
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |  
| QRP'er Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |  
| Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com |  
| Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com |  
-----
```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [2278] Re: Back To Basics: The Sudden Receiver
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960808224053.009975e4@public.compuserve.nf.ca>

Hi Gary and QRP-L Gang,

I have to second Gary's enthusiasm for the Sudden Receiver by Kanga. About 5 years ago I picked up a 40 meter Sudden like Gary's and it was the one unit that really "sparked" my interest in QRP and building.

I packaged mine in a little 4X4X2 Ten Tec enclosure which included the internally mounted 9V battery. I hauled it to my local ham club meeting, attached a long wire antenna strung around the room, attached my little "gray box" Radio Shack amplifier and mesmerized the crowd while W1AW wailed on through. The surprise came when I took the cover off and folks saw the little tiny PC board. THIS receiver is a CLASSIC and a great club project or a neat little kit for beginners. For some references the rig was written up in the Autumn 89 issue of SPRAT, the March 91 issue of Practical Wireless, the Oct 91 issue of 73 (front cover).

A great rig (and one of my keepers). Thanks Gary for reminding us about one of the classics that is still today a great starter receiver.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 00:24 8/8/96 -0400, you wrote:

>I built something really simple and basic tonite, & thought I would share
>it with the list, especially those who are new to Homebrewing and QRP.

>

>I bought a Sudden 40m Receiver kit back at the '95 Dayton Hamvention

>If you have any questions about building the Sudden, feel free to contact

>me: gmdsr@vivanet.com

>

>73 for now...

>- Gary N2JGU

PS: I'm going to reuse Gary's disclaimer - obligatory - hi

Disclaimer: I don't have any financial ties with any of the above companies, other than being a satisfied customer. The intent was to re-visit some of the simpler kits and resources for the beginning QRPer.

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| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com |
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com |
|-----
```


From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: wb8ygg@juno.com (Bradley S. Mitchell)
Subject: [2285] Re: Back To Basics: The Sudden Receiver
Message-ID: <19960807.204633.7911.5.WB8YGG@juno.com>

Ok me too..

I think I said this before, but here I go again!

The Sudden Rx.. Fond memories for sure. I was finishing up my graduate degree, that almost finished me, when I noticed that 73 magazine article on the Sudden..

I thought as soon as I'm totally done, I'm building that!

So eventually i finished, and copied that article.. The artwork was in there, so I decided that I would make my own boards. I had heard about the tech film, and found the add in 73. So I bought some. Hmm silicone sprayed on a transparency I thought, but I tried it, and it worked.

The artwork wasn't perfect, but there SUDDENLY :-)
I had 2 circuit boards.

I started to collect the parts, and got them all, but the coils. I couldn't find them! I spent a good 5 lunch hours trying to call different vendors to get these coils.. ONLY AVAILABLE IN UK! I didn't want to substitute!!

Bill Kelsey wrote me a note on the reflector, and said that I could get the coils from him. He called me up and we talked for quite a while on the phone about the rig. I was becoming hooked!

Building the rig was a no brainer with the parts, and it worked SO good I could not believe it!!

When I went to build the radio into a box, I was in a strange mood, and just wanted to prove how simple these projects were, so I built the rig , Doug Demaw style in a p.c. board case with built in speaker! Then I painted the outside of the box with my wife's water base paint, lettering free hand with a brush!

I topped it all with a coat of clear paint. neat rig!!
There's a picture of it somewhere on the QRP-L page.

I was very proud of this rig, but soon ran into a someone that was local, and was into qrp building. N2JGU. The first rig I compared my ugly rig against was that darn UGLY WEEKENDER that he wrote up in QST later.. Those pictures never did that rig justice!!
end of story.

Moral of story: JUST DO IT, and have fun.

73 Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Ronald Hands <Ronald.Hands@freenet.hamilton.on.ca>
Subject: [2267] Re: Confessions of a Ten-Tec Junkie
Message-ID:
<Pine.SOL.3.91.960808150157.18253A-1000000@james.freenet.hamilton.on.ca>

On Thu, 8 Aug 1996 DYARNES@aol.com wrote:

>
> You really want the truth?? I KEEP TEN-TEC AFLOAT! I am a Ten-Tec junkie
> and it's time that I came out of the closet! There! I've said it! What a
> relief!
>
> P.P.S. As part of my recovery I have to learn to tell the WHOLE truth! I
> also ordered a 9 band receiver kit! Is there any hope?
>

There is *always hope.

In cases of addiction of this sort, the preferred treatment method is a phased withdrawal from the addictive substance(s).

I suggest that you gradually give away your TenTec gear, starting with the Omni VI, which I would be happy to accept if it would assist your recovery.

-- Ron VE3SP
ronald.hands@freenet.hamilton.on.ca

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Jeff T. Casey" <JCASEY@fac.har.sunysb.edu>
Subject: [2270] Re: Confessions of a Ten-Tec Junkie
Message-ID: <MAILQUEUE-101.960808165300.448@fac.har.sunysb.edu>

David,
You have taken the crucial first step by recognizing and admitting to us all that you have a problem. How many times have we all heard a hopeless Ten-Tec abuser say "I'm not addicted! I can stop buying Ten-Tec gear anytime I want!! I just don't want to."

However, Ron's suggested treatment regimen won't do. The only way to kick this kind of psychological dependence is to go *cold turkey*. Getting rid of one piece at a time will only make the withdrawal more torturous for you. David, I know this is hard for you, but you're going to have to let go of your Ten-Tec gear all at once and then never buy another piece.

I'm there for you, David. You can do it. I'll be by to pick up the gear.

73,
Jeff WB5GWB/2

P.S. Anyone else out there want to come forward like David has? I just want you to know that help is only an email away!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [2271] Re: Confessions of a Ten-Tec Junkie
Message-ID: <199608082159.0AA05852@netcom19.netcom.com>

Jeff T. Casey <JCASEY@fac.har.sunysb.edu> writes,

>kick this kind of psychological dependence is to go *cold turkey*.
>Getting rid of one piece at a time will only make the withdrawal more
>torturous for you. David, I know this is hard for you, but you're
>going to have to let go of your Ten-Tec gear all at once and
>then never buy another piece.

...

>P.S. Anyone else out there want to come forward like David has? I
>just want you to know that help is only an email away!

OK David, I'm still looking for the following:

- TX-100 transmitter
- RX-10 receiver
- PM-1 transceiver, all-beige front panel
- TX-1 transmitter module

When you do the right thing and let go of your gear all at once, could you please let me know? You see, it's been a month or so since I bought any ten-tec gear,

and I'm kinda getting the shakes real bad...

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [2275] Re: Double-boxing QRP+'s...
Message-ID: <199608082310.TAA38220@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>
>Hi Ernie,
>
>Wanted to let you know that it doesn't appear that Index is double boxing
>rigs as a default procedure. They must have done it for you as a customer
>service!
>
>73, John WA0VQR

Hello Gang,

John is so right, I will take the precaution of double booxing the rig on the trip out to Gig Harbor. I will also ask for the same to be done upon returning it to me, however, the ole gal has been acting just fine here lately, no temper tantrums and have had fine QSO's in RTTY,SSB,and CW.

BTW, just tried out the "Little Red Key" for the first time, what a hoot!

I haven't used a key since 91 as a novice. I can't wait for winter conditions on 80 so I can talk to the novices. I tried that using a set of paddles and the keyer set slow, but I can't send decent code that slow with this set up.

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Raymond.Anderson@Eng.Sun.COM (Ray Anderson)
Subject: [2249] Re: Hallicrafters S-38C
Message-ID: <9608081538.AA01709@radium.Eng.Sun.COM>

> From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 06:26:32 1996
> Date: 8 Aug 96 08:07:00 -0400
> Reply-To: mvjff@mvubr.att.com
> Sender: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
> From: mvjff@mvubr.att.com
>>
> Putting together an ancient vacuum tube QRP station
> and Im looking for a (50's vintage) Hallicrafters S-38C receiver.
>
> I have an earlier an S-38 model and will try restoring that
> if an S-38C model cannot be acquired.
>
> However, I need tubes, manual/schematic, if anyone can help.
>
> 72 & Thanks
>
> Jim W1FMR

Jim-

I've got a 15th generation copy of a S38C schematic someone
FAXED to me.

It isn't very legible (you can't read the component values)

but you can get the general idea of the circuit layout and function.

It's better than nothing (but perhaps not by much!) If you wish I could FAX or send you a copy of it for what it is worth.

-Ray WB6TPU

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "M. E. Monninger" <markem@primenet.com>
Subject: [2290] Re: HP - The Nerd's Badge of Honor
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960808200301.002ec560@mailhost.primenet.com>

Warning! Warning! Olde Farte Alert!

Now, when I was in school, it was a nice big Pickett or Deitzgen (sp?) slide rule dangling from your belt in a leather case. The more scales, the better, altho I doubt that very many of us knew how to use all those scales (OTOH, a REAL nerd probably would...). I had a nice Pickett aluminum slip-stick but a lot of my EE buddies preferred the bamboo models...less chance of damage if you dropped it into a live circuit.

The first calculator I had was a Heathkit...four functions for \$99, if I remember correctly.

73... Mark AA7TA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: svecbrdk@well.com (L.Svec, W.Burdick)
Subject: [2289] Re: KC2 not "automatic fit" for Cascade? exCUSE me!
Message-ID: <199608090237.TAA16183@mh1.well.com>

A KC2 field-test kit buyer wrote:

>I have decided to sell my KC2 keyer kit as it isn't a automatic
>fit for the Cascade rig it was intended for.

Question: Does "intended" = "automatic"?? Not!

Folks, I apologize if I (or Doug, for that matter) gave anyone the impression that the KC2 was an "automatic fit" for anything. If we did, it would be false advertising. But since we didn't say anything of the kind, I'll assume it's a misconception that needs to be cleared up.

Yes, we intended it for the Sierra and Cascade, and it **can** be installed in a Cascade with a small amount of effort. I engaged Dave Meacham on the phone for quite a while to make sure that the KC2 would fit and that all the necessary signals were either there or could be derived with a small amount of interface hardware. We will immediately incorporate any new details on the installation back into the KC2 manual, as well as post them to QRP-L.

I respect anyones' decision to sell his KC2, but just in case it isn't perfectly clear: the KC2 WILL work with the Cascade, and I will personally help anyone who has trouble, as I have done with the '40A and Sierra field tests in the past. (I didn't design the Cascade; if you encounter an esoteric problem that I can't handle I'll find someone else who can.)

HOW NORCAL CLUB PROJECTS WORK

A few pointers for the benefit of those who design or buy NorCal field test kits in the future:

- Nothing is ever "automatic" with built-in accessories; some work has to be done to connect them. If people have trouble, we solve the problems via e-mail or QRPp and move on. Let's save "automatic" to mean "you don't have to do anything," which is useful for the appliance operators of the world.
- With few exceptions, NorCal members and others on this list take satisfaction in building and installing these devices. Winding toroids, machining panels, and waiting for manual corrections are facts of life.
- This is one of the foundations that NorCal was built on:
 - good ideas may become club projects;
 - club projects get kitted for field test;
 - the field test generates data that the designer(s) can use to improve the device and its documentation;
 - if all goes well, a second run of the kits may be made available from either NorCal or a commercial supplier.

To take one example: hundreds of letters, phone calls and e-mails transpired between the original prototype NC40 kits and the third generation re-design, the Wilderness Radio re-design NorCal 40A. This is part of the fun and challenge of homebrew. A field-test kit is not a Heathkit.

On top of that, many people build these kits who have had **zero**

experience. Club members help each other out, and we all learn more electronics in the process.

Hope this clears up the intent of the KC2 field test in case anyone else was wondering.

73,
Wayne
N6KR

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: weinfurtner@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu (Greg Weinfurtner)
Subject: [2242] Re: Martian Rock Life?
Message-ID: <v01510101ae2f7e1baa73@[132.235.72.11]>

>If I hear any more about this so-called Martian microbe that might
>have been, I'm gonna be SICK! Anyone in science knows to treat such
>"findings" with a great deal of skepticism until collaboration or
>additional evidence is produced. What is really going on here?!

>

>After hearing today on the radio, about a U2 plane crashing in a
>Sacramento parking lot, I tried to get more info by watching the
>Clinton News Network (CNN). Each hour and half hour, all they began
>with on the news was the rock revelation like it was some kind of
>a earth-shattering event! The plane crash story was much later in
>the broadcast and treated very low key. And the scientists have had
>this rock for 14 years! Why did it take until now to reveal this
>"discovery"?

>

>Sounds like NASA is coming up for a budget renewal and so are
>many other university research grants, etc. Even Clinton used this
>"news" for a political statement. Good Grief!

>

>Sheesh! Let's get back to technical discussions and QRP and leave
>this crap where it belongs, on the TV.

>

>Just my \$0.02 worth.

>73,

>--

>Gary, AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix) Grid Square DM43BH

Gary

Great letter! I am still laughing...the "Clinton News Network" is right on the money! I agree that it must be budget renewal time for Nasa.

RE:Meteor How in #@\$!! do they know that meteor came from Mars anyway?? Couldn't it have just as easily come from anywhere else in the universe, even an earth volcano?? OH, I guess that I forgot that it had a "Made on Mars" sticker on it! Geeeeessssssshhhhhhhh! Give me a break!

Eeerrrrily reminicent of the Scopes Monkey trial where the "scientists" assured us that the "evolutionary evidence" , a tooth, was the tooth of an "ancient ancestor of man." The "scientists" built up an entire community and society of apemen on the evidence of this one tooth. The funny thing is that later, it was found out that the tooth belonged to a pickry, a type of a pig, that still exists today!

To quote that sage of old, Bugs Bunny, "Oh Margret!"

Where are the real scientists these days?

Anyway, before I ramble on, good to hear a concurring opinion.

Bottom line: Don't believe everything you hear, especially on any of the major ABC, CBS, NBC orCNN News Fakers. Especially about Billary Clinton!

Now back to technical things!

vy 73 de NS80

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@amsat.org>
Subject: [2244] RE: Martian Rock Life?
Message-ID: <01I80YD3SAE096VK7U@ARWEN.UTHSCSA.EDU>

There are several geologic processes that will create little shapes like what they have found in this rock. One that is very common here on Earth is mineral precipitation from water within the rock. Yes, there is water on Mars. It is all either ground water or tied up in the rocks. Mineral precipitation from water in the rocks will create little round "spheres" that will resemble some of the forms of bacteria that we have here on Earth. It takes very sophisticated instruments to tell the difference. This is one of the next experiments that will be done on this rock.

They will try to determine if these shapes are mineral formations or not.

It is amazing to me that NASA scientists can just HINT that they THINK that these things LOOK like they MIGHT be fossilized bacteria and the news media, who IMHO is ignorant about much of what the speak, takes it and runs with it.

"NASA discovers life on Mars!" I can just see it now.

I'll bet Carl Sagan is just drooling over these rocks.

Not to say that Dr. Sagan isn't a brilliant astronomer, he is, but an exo-biologist, puleeeeeeeze!

Kevin, WB5RUE

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996

From: Gary Surrency <gsurrenc@ix.netcom.com>

Subject: [2237] Re: MFJ 9030 FIX

Message-ID: <3209739E.19A1@ix.netcom.com>

Mark_Korchinski@isdtcp3.hwc.ca wrote:

>
> However, rather than MFJ using a proper inline fuse they have a "PC
> trace" fuse which is a thin piece of trace that opened.
>
> Anyone have experience with this fix?

Mark,

There are fuses for this purpose that look like resistors. They are called "picofuses" and are available from many electronics parts houses. I see them in a catalog I have from Marlin P. Jones.

An alternative would be to get a 5x20mm miniature fuse of the appropriate rating (probably 2amps) from Radio Shack and solder pigtail leads on it to fit into the holes you mentioned.

72/73,

Gary, AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)Grid Square DM43BH

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996

From: 08-Aug-1996 0918 <randolph@pnr.ENABLE.dec.com>

Subject: [2247] re: New to Ham Radio and QRP
Message-ID: <9608081344.AA15956@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

Tim,

> Is it worth attempting to build my own radio? I am not an electronics
> expert and the only exposure I have to it is the basic theory needed
> to pass the exam. Though I do know some people who could help me on
> this.

I'd say go for it. One of the best ways to learn analog (as opposed to digital) electronics is to build, modify and use radios. Start with a one-band kit transceiver like the Norcal-40 or the NN1G (ask us where to get 'em). A single band radio is much easier to comprehend as a whole, and a kit is much easier to get working than a scratch-built radio. Get a couple of books from the ARRL (look in the back of QST): the latest Handbook, and "Solid State Design for the Radio Amateur". Compare circuits in the kit with those in the books. Try to figure out why the designers did what they did. In radios, everything from DC to RF gets processed in one way or another, using an incredible variety of circuits, so you really learn a lot!

> Also, what should I expect regarding QRP? Can anyone recommend any
> books and/or magazines that would help me learn more?

We're in a low of the sunspot cycle, so HF propagation isn't always the greatest. We'll go for a day or two with dead bands, then get a day or two with easy contacts. The bottom line is, you CAN make contacts, even QRP. Don't give up - tomorrow the bands might come back strong! Using CW and a narrow-bandwidth receiver gives you an advantage over voice modes.

=====
Tom Randolph N100Q NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL randolph@asic.enet.dec.com
=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Bill C." <wrc@tir.com>
Subject: [2252] Re: New to Ham Radio and QRP
Message-ID: <320A33F7.10DE@tir.com>

Hi Tim,

Welcome to ham radio. I believe the single most important part of *any* station is the receiver. You have mentioned the \$100 budget target (we all have to deal with budgets). I am not familiar with all those kits the other folks talk about on the list. I scratch build or buy old ones to modify (or use as-is). If your budget is really tight and you can't

eventually increase it you might consider one of the used kits I see advertised here. If you don't buy a superhet with good xtal filters you'll still have to buy one later. The DC rigs are fun, but they fall down rather badly when the bands get hot during a contest weekend.

You expressed an interest in building your own. With some preactice and study, you can get some excellent equipment this way, but it still isn't free. I remember an influx of new hams in our area who got all excited at the idea of my "free" homebrew two meter FM rig. It only has five xtal controlled channels and cost me over \$160! At the time you could buy a good used synthesized, programmable, 25 watt mobile for about \$125 at *any* swap!!

You have to decide. I have given my 2 cents worth. I don't think anybody on the list will give you bad advice. Keep in touch with us and... enjoy.

73,

Bill KU8H

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Bill C." <wrc@tir.com>
Subject: [2253] Re: New to Ham Radio and QRP (LONG)
Message-ID: <320A357A.48E6@tir.com>

Hi Brian,

I like the part about flames being rare, here. I recently found several of these "lists" as opposed to the newsgroups. They do seem more pleasant. Poor old "mailer daemon"!! I am pleased to have found this gang.

73,

Bill KU8H

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [2246] RE: PIN diodes
Message-ID: <960808110149.2064a541@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Phil, you queried:

>Just a quuick question, what is PIN? I was fixing a radio & an (some of

>you may need to avert your eyes here) power amp & the sheet with the
>finals said that I should check the PIN diodes & replace them if needed.
>Just what is a PIN diode? (positive ? Negative)??
>
>Also, how do I check them with a meter (it does have a diode check
>selection) what do I look for?

PIN diodes are so named because of their internal construction. "Normal" diodes have junctions formed by "P" doped material and "N" doped material right next to each other. PIN diodes have an "I" type material in between. The "I" means intrinsic, or undoped semiconductor material. For quantum-mechanical reasons, PIN diodes have long carrier lifetimes which means that they do not react quickly to RF once they are forward biased. This means that once you turn them on, they can have very low forward resistance. And when they are not biased, they act like a high resistance. So just a little dc bias can make them turn on or off acting like a good RF switch. Well, maybe that's a little oversimplified, but that's the general idea.

Since they are diodes, you can do dc forward and reverse checks on them same as you would any other diode.

BTW, for *some* applications, ordinary rectifier diodes can be used in PIN applications. In high voltage diodes like the 1N4007, the normal processing makes them have an internal structure similar to a PIN type device. However since they are not designed as a PIN or intended for that use, they are not as good.

If you are interested in further info, I can give you several references on both PIN diodes and on comparisons between good PINs and 1N4007's.

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Raymond.Anderson@Eng.Sun.COM (Ray Anderson)
Subject: [2248] Re: PIN diodes
Message-ID: <9608081532.AA01699@radium.Eng.Sun.COM>

> From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 07:36:28 1996
> Date: Thu, 8 Aug 1996 09:59:40 -0400 (EDT)

> Reply-To: ke3fl@access.digex.net
> Sender: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
> From: Philip Karras <ke3fl@access.digex.net>
>
> Just a quuick question, what is PIN? I was fixing a radio & an (some of
> you may need to avert your eyes here) power amp & the sheet with the
> finals said that I should check the PIN diodes & replace them if needed.
> Just what is a PIN diode? (positive ? Negative)??
>
> Also, how do I check them with a meter (it does have a diode check
> selection) what do I look for?
>
> Thanks for any help.
> 72 & 73 de KE3FL/Phil
> :-)
>
>

PIN diodes function as current controlled RF resistors. When a variable DC current is run through the diode, the resistance of the diode changes smoothly (Allows you to make a current controlled attenuator) rather than turning on and off abruptly like an ordinary diode. More current yields lower resistance. One gotcha' is that PIN diodes act as controllable resistors only above a certain critical frequency. Below that frequency they act more or less like conventional diodes. A typical PIN functions in the variable resistance mode above a few MHz, but it depends on a parameter called T_r (time of recombination) that you can find on the data sheet.

PIN stands for Postive Intrinsic Negative and comes from the doping stackup when the diode is fabricated.

Won't go any deeper into the semiconductor physics, but hope that this answers your question.

BTW, if you check them with an ohmmeter, they will look like a regular diode because DC is < the critical frequency at which the variable resistance effect comes into play.

72,
Ray WB6TPU

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: Mark Mandelkern <k5am@lascruces.com>
Subject: [2265] Re: RPN calculators
Message-ID: <199608081853.MAA10769@chile.lascruces.com>

ac6ls@amsat.org
cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, vhf@w6yx.stanford.edu

At 10 06 96/08/08 -0700, you wrote:

>Hello to my fav. TN's (techno-nerds, as a friend at work calls us-hi)
>
>am on the search for a new rpn calculator. am presently using an
>hp 11-C, which I like very much. would like to know what you are
>using and would suggest for me as a second.

I've been using an HP-41CV for 12 years, and think it's great. It has a large memory and holds dozens of programs for all the formulas I ever need, for homebrewing an entire station. They are still available on the used market.

Of course, I am not familiar with later models, but rumor has it that many people still prefer the 41.

73,

Mark, K5AM DM62ni k5am@lascruces.com

Mark Mandelkern
Las Cruces, New Mexico, USA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [2280] Re: rpn calculators
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960808224102.009a237c@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Phil,

>I know that this is not really ham related, but who else would have rpn
>calculators?

Phil - are you kidding - Reverse Polish Notation calculators are definetly ham related - EVERY ham should have one to calculate how much those qrp kits are really costing...

I swear by my HP 32SII RPN Scientific - I don't need anything fancier.

And just like qrp rigs it can be (must be) run off of batteries.

So I hope this info "enriches" your qrp "experience".

Cheers 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 10:06 8/8/96 -0700, you wrote:

>Hello to my fav. TN's (techno-nerds, as a friend at work calls us-hi)

```
-----
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRP'er Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com |
| Compuserve:    70466.1405@compuserve.com |
|-----
```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996

From: Dana Myers <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>

Subject: [2281] Re: rpn calculators

Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.839537317.27272.myers@bigboy>

> Hi Phil,

>

> >I know that this is not really ham related, but who else would have rpn

> >calculators?

>

> Phil - are you kidding - Reverse Polish Notation calculators are definately

> ham related - EVERY ham should have one to calculate how much those qrp kits

> are really costing...

>

> I swear by my HP 32SII RPN Scientific - I don't need anything fancier.

I love my 32SII also - I bought it to replace my 11C. The 32SII does complex math well enough I can use it for doing L/C/R network calculations. Anything that isn't easy to do on the 32SII should be done on a full computer (like this 133MHz Pentium *notebook* running Sun Unix I'm using ;-).

I liked the 32SII enough I bought my wife a 20S (she's an algebraic kinda person).

Dana KK6JQ

Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996

From: "Jerry B. Altzman" <jbaltz@cs.columbia.edu>

Subject: [2284] Re: rpn calculators

Message-ID: <199608090032.UAA18157@play.cs.columbia.edu>

On Thu, 08 Aug 1996 10:06:08 PDT, "Phil, AC6LS" wrote:

am on the search for a new rpn calculator. am presently using an
hp 11-C, which I like very much. would like to know what you are
using and would suggest for me as a second.

I've got a 15C, a 41C with a bad battery pack, and a 28S. You'll get them
when you pry my cold dead fin...

Oh sorry.

There are a whole bunch of new HP RPN calculators out on the market.
Educalc (no I don't have their number handy but I'm sure someone does or
you can get it off the net <http://www.educalc.com> -- wait, the number is
1-888-educalc).

Personally, if you could get a used 28-S, that would probably do you well.
It has some rudimentary graphics capabilities and a nice programming set.
Like Dana Myers said: anything too complicated for my calculator should be
done on the Big Iron.

If you're feeling flush, get one of the 48 series. They do everything but
wash your car.

tnx es 73 de Phil

//jbaltz

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| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| jerry b. altzman | Entropy just isn't what it used to be | +1 212 650 5617 |
| jbaltz@cs.columbia.edu | jbaltz@scisun.sci.ccny.cuny.edu | KE3ML |

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996

From: Bob White <bobwhitewo3b@geocities.com>

Subject: [2292] Re: rpn calculators

Message-ID: <320AB869.3606@geocities.com>

Phil, AC6LS wrote:

>

> Postage paid by: [Image]

>

> -----

>

> Hello to my fav. TN's (techno-nerds, as a friend at work calls us-hi)

>

> am on the search for a new rpn calculator. am presently using an

> hp 11-C, which I like very much. would like to know what you are
> using and would suggest for me as a second.
>
> I know that this is not really ham related, but who else would have rpn
> calculators?
>
> tnx es 73 de Phil
>
> -----I like the HP
48G. Lots of good built in features, it's programable,
and has an RS232 interface. I have even used it with an HT, and a KAM3
as a very small QRP packet station.

72,
Bob White W03B
<http://www.geocities.com/siliconvalley/5582>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: George Dorner <gdorner@kiwi.pyrotechnics.com>
Subject: [2236] Re: slingshot or hardball
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960808001137.771A-100000@kiwi.pyrotechnics.com>

On Wed, 7 Aug 1996, Thomas J. Whalen wrote:

> Hi QRPers! I've used both the slingshot and a hardball to get antennas
> into trees and both work well.

The local favorites for antenna launching here are: a) small
differential gear from 1971 Chevy Vega (W9ZSJ) and b) hockey puck with
hole drilled in middle.

Hope this info helps.

geo

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: "John Mouw" <mouw@innnet.com>
Subject: [2283] Re: slingshot or hardball
Message-ID: <199608090017.UAA18747@lucky.innnet.com>

A heavy lead sinker, 10lb test line and a Roberts or Crossman wrist rocket

slingshot from Walmart, and all your dreams will come true!

> From: Thomas J. Whalen <whalen@swcp.com>
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
> Subject: slingshot or hardball
> Date: Wednesday, August 07, 1996 10:17 PM
>
> Hi QRPers! I've used both the slingshot and a hardball to get antennas
> into trees and both work well. When I use the hardball, I duck tape a 1/4
> inch line to the ball and let er rip! If it gets hung up, you normally
> can just give it a tug and it will let go and you can start over. The
> sling shot method seems to reach a lil higher up but I've also got
> snagged plenty of times. Go "fly a kite" antenna instead! Tom WB5QYT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 8 23:14:01 1996
From: BOB KELLOGG <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>
Subject: [2268] Re: TMPS
Message-ID: <199608081949.PAA14677@mh004.infi.net>

Hi Craig,

At 03:17 PM 8/7/96 -0700, you wrote:

> 2. Whats happening to 30M? Activity seems to be falling off. I've
> noticed on the OH2's web site, most of the DX spots are from European
> stations. Chuck, you said August would be FB ... you promised!
> Harvey(N6MM), it looks like I'll now be forced to get a life!

I knew it would happen sooner or later. -- You and Harvey have wore out the
band and ruined it for the rest of us that are trying to learn about Amateur
radio. Shame on you! Why don't you take up another hobby? -- RC model
planes are fun.

CUL,
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

AE4IC TMPS 1996 QS=80 States=17 Confirmed=11 DX=32
AL,CT,FL,GA,IL,KS,MD,MI,NC,NH,NY,OH,PA,TN,TX,WI,WY
3B8,9A,DL,EI,EK,F,FG,G,GM,GU,HA,HB,K,LU,LZ,OH,OK,OM,ON,OZ,P4,PA,SH,SP,TI,UA,
UR,VE,XE,YO,YS,YU